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May 31 9 33 AM '95

May 24, 1995

Mr. Danny L. McDonald
Chairman
Federal Election Commission
999 E Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20463

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FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

Dear Mr. McDonald:

I am writing to request an advisory opinion from the Federal Election Commission on the proposed use of campaign funds for travel-related expenses for our children.

My wife Sally serves as my senior campaign advisor and is an integral part of my campaign team. Several times a year, Sally accompanies me back to my district in Indiana, where she is directly involved in campaign-related activities.

The newly-revised FEC regulations governing the personal use of campaign funds clearly state in Section 113.2 that "spouse travel for campaign purposes continues to be a permissible expense." However, the regulations do not clarify the status of our children when they accompany us back to the district.

We have two small children, ages 2 and 10 months. Clearly, infants this young must come with us when my wife and I travel to Indiana on campaign-related business, even though they are not directly involved in campaign activities. Since our oldest child is 2, we are required to purchase an airline ticket for him.

This expense is directly related to my campaign, and would not exist irrespective of Sally's and my campaign responsibilities. That is the general definition of personal use set out in the regulations. In order to ensure that I am in compliance with the rules, I would like the FEC to advise me if it is permissible to use campaign funds to pay for our two-year old's air fare.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. I look forward to hearing from you on this matter.

Sincerely,

Tim Roemer
Member of Congress

TR:mbn

P.O. Box 4400